

Owning Faith Middle School Ministry – 7th and 8th Grades

... that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6

Middle school can be a challenging time for students as they begin adolescence or are already in the throes of it. While this is a time of great change, it is also a time of great opportunity for students to make their faith their own. Adolescence is a time of moving from dependence on parents to independence in all areas of life, including faith.

As many of our students will have experienced the previous milestones, we know that there will have been a great foundation of faith and biblical knowledge laid. In our middle (and high) school ministry we will continue to build upon that foundation to help our students own their own faith. Students who own their own faith will live it out every day and everywhere.

Middle school can be one of the toughest places in the United States to be a Christian. It can be a confusing time with many physical, social, emotional, and intellectual changes. Knowing what to do and where to go for advice and answers can be hard to determine. While adolescence is a time of moving towards independence, the family still has a significant role to play in helping their teenagers own their faith.

We know that God is the one who enables faith to grow and enables students to own their own faith. Because of this, we are confident that “he who began a good work in you *and your teenager* will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6, italics added).

Resources:

Teenage Guys: Exploring Issues Adolescent Guys Face and Strategies to Help Them by Steven Gerali (Zondervan/Youth Specialties)

Teenage Girls: Exploring Issues Adolescent Girls Face and Strategies to Help Them by Ginny Olson (Zondervan/Youth Specialties)

Logged On and Tuned Out: A Non-Techie's Guide to Parenting a Tech-Savvy Generation by Vicki Courtney (B&H Publishing Group)

99 Thoughts for Parents of Teenagers: The Truth on Raising Teenagers from Parents Who Have Been There by Walt Mueller (Group Publishing)

The Five Love Languages of Teenagers by Gary Chapman (Northfield)

Raising a Modern-Day Knight: A Father's Role in Guiding His Son to Authentic Manhood by Robert Lewis (Tyndale House)

*Raising a Modern-Day Princess: Inspiring Purpose, Value and Strength in your
Daughter* by Pam Farrel and Doreen Hanna (Tyndale House)
Parents' Guide to the Spiritual Mentoring of Teens by Joe White and Jim
Weidmann (Heritage Builders)

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